

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Slater, *et al.*

Serial No.:

Group No.:

Filed:

Herewith


Examiner:

Entitled:

**Thermophilic DNA Polymerases From *Thermotoga Neapolitana***

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10</b>	
<small>I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label No. EL 992 784 726 US addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</small>	
Dated: <u>November 12, 2003</u>	By:  Lesley R. Gore

Sir:

In the parent application, the Applicants had copied claims 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, and 38 from U.S. Patent No. 5,939,301, ("301") in order to preserve the right to provoke an interference proceeding with the patentees of the '301 patent. In that application, a restriction requirement was issued and Applicants elected to pursue claims directed to polypeptides. The present divisional application is filed to pursue the remaining claims directed to nucleic acids.

Prior to an Examination on the merits of the above-identified Application, please amend the Application as follows: